



Board of Trustees awards posthumous degree to Eric Plunkett

The Gallaudet Board of Trustees, at its October 6 meeting on campus, voted to award an honorary bachelor's degree posthumously to Eric Plunkett, the Gallaudet freshman who was found dead in his dormitory room on September 28.

Board of Trustees Chair Glenn Anderson said that the heartfelt letter from Plunkett's mother, Kathleen Cornils, to President Jordan, which was shared with the campus, "clearly shows that Eric loved Gallaudet and was looking forward to an education here and earning a degree."

Plunkett's death, said Dr. Anderson, "is something you can never be prepared for. ... (It) has shocked and saddened everyone." He commended the campus community for the way it has unified in the tragedy. "It clearly shows the spirit we have on this campus and how we have responded to the crisis which occurred," he said. "(The board's) thoughts and prayers are with (Plunkett's) family and all of you."

President I. King Jordan added that he and Linda Jordan attended Plunkett's funeral in his home state of Minnesota on October 4. "It was a very moving experience," he said.

In the business segment of the board meeting, Dr. Jordan announced that a two- to three-year pilot program will be initiated in January to admit a small number of hearing, degree-seeking

undergraduates to the University. At no time during the pilot program will more than two percent of an entering class—about six students—be hearing, and all who apply will be measured against certain criteria, said Jordan. He added that a committee will be established to monitor the progress of these students, which the Admissions Office will use in establishing guidelines.

"I'm pleased that we are taking this step," Jordan said of this landmark decision in Gallaudet's history. He said that after receiving a great deal of feedback from the campus community and from talking individually with members of the student body, he is confident that hearing students who are interested in pursuing undergraduate degrees at Gallaudet, "want to fit in and are interested in deafness."

It was also announced that the University's "Unite for Gallaudet" capital campaign is nearing its \$30 million goal, having passed the \$27 million mark. "I'm very encouraged about our success, and frankly, amazed," said Jordan, pointing to the fact that one year ago, the campaign was at \$11.1 million.

The Student Academic Center and Ely Center renovation projects have gotten the go-ahead from the Washington, D.C., Board

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Reception cultivates support for Academic Center

A September 12 wine tasting hosted by Gallaudet Board of Trustees member Vinton Cerf was held at the Nest Lounge of the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel in Washington, D.C., to cultivate support for the University's Student Academic Center project.

About 30 philanthropic, business, and foundation leaders joined members of the Development Office and Gallaudet officials at the reception, where, in addition to sampling a variety of vintages from

California, France, Australia, and New Zealand, guests were informed about the importance of their gifts toward the \$10 million construction project.

Presentations were made by President I. King Jordan, Dr. Cerf, and special guest Sam Donaldson of ABC News. Pictured (from left) are: Donaldson, Linda Jordan, President Jordan, Cerf, and Donaldson's wife, Jan Smith-Donaldson. **G**

Student volunteers help clean up neighborhood



Gallaudet students pick up leaves and debris from sidewalks in the Ivy City and Trinidad neighborhoods on Sept. 23 as part of their community service project.

What do you think many students do on Saturday mornings? Watch TV, sleep late, catch-up on their e-mail?

Even if these stereotypes of students' weekend habits are generally true, 81 Gallaudet students broke the mold on September 23 by volunteering to clean up the Trinidad/Ivy City area.

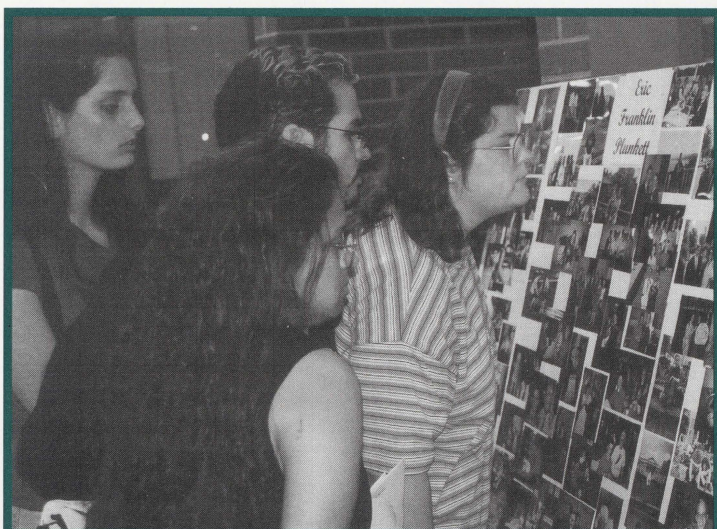
The students participated in the "Beautify the Trinidad/Ivy City" project by picking up trash, painting, raking leaves, and doing general landscaping. The students did an outstanding job and picked

up lots of trash—over 100 bags worth!

The students loved the experience. They said it gave them a sense of pride for the area around Gallaudet, as well as a great opportunity to give back to their neighbors.

Before the clean-up started, the students were fortified with a free breakfast, and each received a T-shirt.

The event was coordinated by Gallaudet University Community Service Program interns Kim Pare and Chuck Rubisch. **G**



Mourners gather around a collage of photos depicting the life of Eric Plunkett, the Gallaudet freshman who was found dead in his Cogswell Hall dormitory room on September 28, at an October 6 memorial service in the Field House. Provost Jane Fernandes and Tom Green, president of the Lambda Society of Gallaudet University, were among many Gallaudet officials, family members, and friends who paid tribute to Plunkett at the service. "We are so deeply saddened by the loss of Eric, a new and promising member of the Gallaudet community," said Dr. Fernandes. "We did not have enough time to get to know you, Eric, but we will not forget you. You have left us with a great deal to think about. We will remember you when we welcome new students to Gallaudet and give them our special attention, support, and love. We will take more time to get to know each other, and try harder to understand and appreciate what each of us brings to Gallaudet and to each other. May peace and comfort come to you and your family." Said Green, "In just a month here, Eric became an important part of our community's fabric. ... The fact that he was so new, and so young, makes Eric's death especially hard. We were still in the process of welcoming the new students to this community and now it's a community with a gaping wound."

'Three Way Conversations' exhibit opens at Washburn Arts Center Gallery



Students Sean Markel, Liya Yihedgo, and Charlene Doll discuss three images entitled "Respect, Equality, Exchange," at the October 4 opening reception for "Three Way Conversations," an exhibit in the Washburn Arts Center Gallery. The large-format oil paintings by artist Suellen Johnson depicting deaf people, hearing people, and interpreters, is part of "gallaudet connections," the Art Department's ongoing arts exhibition series by artists who are in some way connected to Gallaudet—through family, friends, and common interests. In a written statement for the exhibit, Johnson, an assistant professor of art at Western Oregon University (WOU), explained that she developed a long-standing respect for sign language while working at WOU, which has a Regional Resource Center on Deafness. "My intention in this series is to honor communication by representing some of the aspects of American Sign Language and the natural grace of the human gestures," she said. "Three Way Conversations," Johnson's first solo exhibit on the East Coast, will be on view through October 27.



Christopher Madden applies a coat of wax to the statue of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet giving a lesson to Alice Cogswell before buffing the bronze to a glossy sheen. The October 2-3 sprucing-up of the statue in front of Chapel Hall is part of a national restoration effort funded by Save Outdoor Sculpture to repair the effects of deterioration on historic statues. The 1888 image of Gallaudet and his young student by famed sculptor Daniel Chester French, whose credits include the statue of President Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., had not been worked on for the past 20 years, said Madden, and was starting to corrode. Actually, Madden and objects conservator Shelley Sturman did major work on the statue last year and both of them returned this year for a maintenance call.

Admissions gives prospective undergrads an orientation to campus

Here's a scenario that may be familiar to some readers: A prospective student shows up at your office and expresses a desire to learn more about Gallaudet. You want to help them, but you don't have all the answers and there isn't anyone in your office who is any better prepared than you are. You feel awkward because you don't know who to refer them to.

Now there is a solution. The Office of Admissions has hired Patty Shaffner to fill the position of prospective undergraduate stu-

dent programs specialist, which was created for situations like this. In previous years, the Visitors' Center would handle all visitors and schedule their visits. Now, visits by prospective undergraduate students are handled by the Office of Admissions. Shaffner is familiar with the campus - she is a 1997 graduate of Gallaudet and worked in the Admissions Office last year.

Now, if a prospective student shows up in your office without an appointment, you can refer him or her to Shaffner. Shaffner will help these individuals by setting up



Patty Shaffner

tours with the Visitors Center and appointments with other departments. "I work closely with prospective students and Gallaudet to combine their needs with each other," said Shaffner.

Director of Admissions Deborah Destefano added, "These visitors are very important, and we need the full involvement of the entire community to make these visits enjoyable and beneficial for the prospective students."

It is better and easier if the visitor notifies Gallaudet in advance that they are coming and want to see specific departments or people. Shaffner will then set up their day so that they can meet with people who are working with departments who are part of the students' interest.

Shaffner is also responsible for open houses for prospective undergraduate students, parents, teachers, and VR counselors, and College Bound, a summer program for incoming high school seniors, and is scheduled for July 9-13. The open houses are scheduled for Fridays during the school year and include exciting opportunities to see Gallaudet and its people up close, with events such as academic fairs, class observations, financial aid workshops, and residence hall tours. Upcoming open houses are scheduled for October 27, November 17, March 23, April 6, and April 20.

The most important thing, according to Shaffner, "is to make the visitor's visit to Gallaudet enjoyable and to let them see what Gallaudet is all about." So, if Shaffner calls your office, it is important to know that she is calling about a prospective student who is interested in your department, and wants to arrange a tour or meeting with your department.

Shaffner can be reached in the Office of Admissions at (800) 995-0550 (V/TTY), or by e-mail at admissions.studentvisits@gallaudet.edu

Check out 'On the Green's' Web version. Many of the articles and photographs that appear in each week's issue of *On the Green* can also be read in *On the Green's* Web version, the online version of Gallaudet's faculty/staff newsletter. *On the Green's* Web version can be accessed through the University's homepage.



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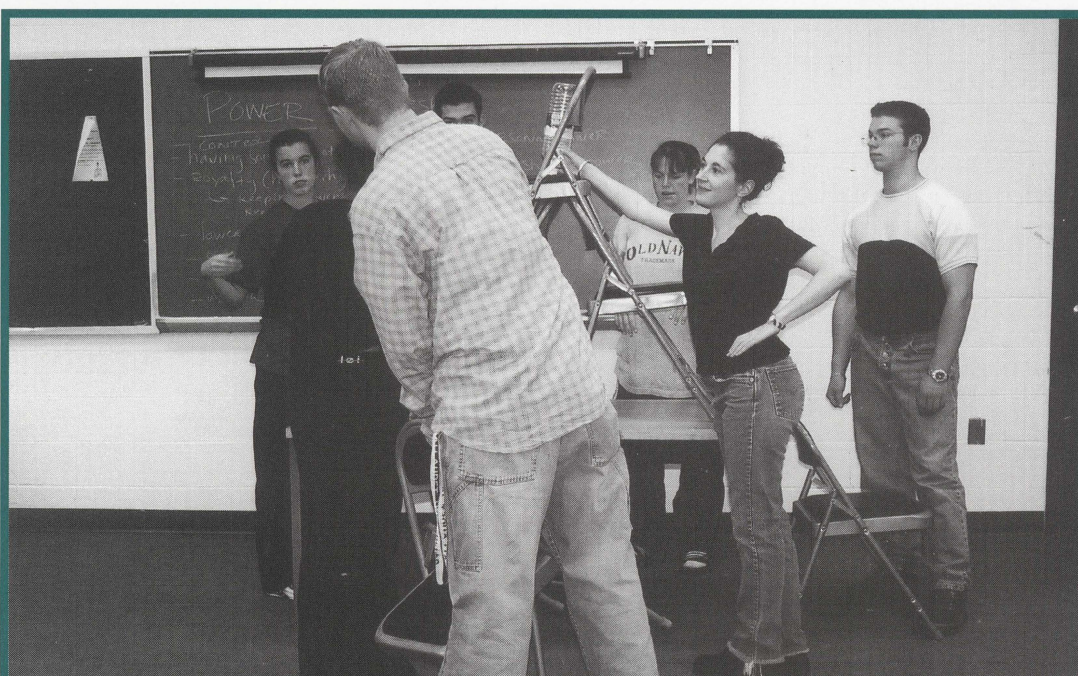
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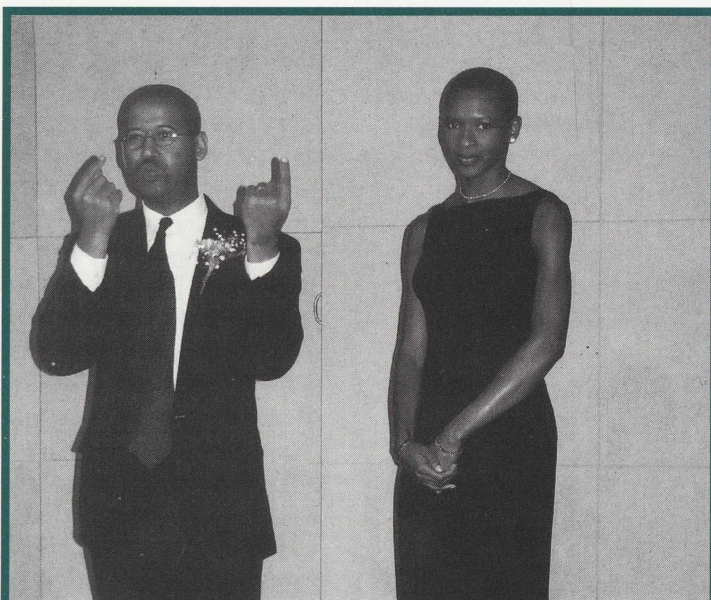
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Students in instructor Angela Farrand's "Introduction to Theatre" class take part in a workshop led by Rachel Grossman (second from right), assistant director of education for Arena Stage. The activity was part of the Theatre Arts Department's involvement with Arena's "Expedition Theater" program in which the students saw a sign interpreted production of the critically acclaimed play *THE GREAT WHITE HOPE*, followed by a week of classroom work led by theater professionals. Here, Grossman has the students create a "power sculpture" using three inanimate elements.



Lindsay Dunn, special assistant to the president for diversity and community relations, introduces Claudia Gordon at the 25th anniversary awards ceremony of the Gallaudet Community Relations Council on September 30. Gordon, an attorney with the National Association of the Deaf, was presented with the GCRC's Outstanding Educational Achievement Award.

Input sought on A-RAP targets



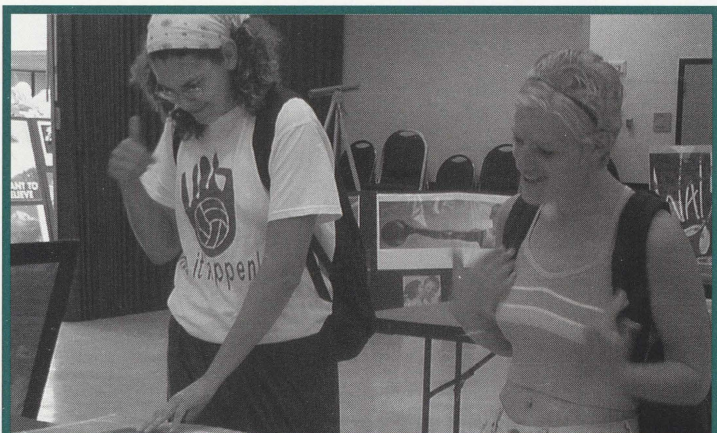
Last summer, teams led by individuals from various campus units (pictured above), proposed targets for Gallaudet's strategic planning process known as A-RAP.

The teams, along with deans, budget unit heads, department chairs, faculty, and staff, attended a September 22 luncheon in the GUKCC sponsored by the Office of Planning to encourage them to spread the word to the campus community about how important these targets are to the University's future. (For a full list of the targets, go to A-RAP's web

site, planning.gallaudet.edu.)

Input will be solicited until October 23, when the teams will meet again to review and modify the objectives and present them to the President's Council, which in turn will make recommendations to President Jordan by the end of the semester.

Pictured (from left) are: Judith Termini, Eric Bradshaw, Dr. Cynthia King, Terry Coye, Dr. Judith Mounty, Dr. Donna Mertens, and Dr. Reginald Redding. (Not pictured is team leader Dr. Bette Martin.)



Students who hadn't brought enough posters and pictures from home had the opportunity to look through thousands of posters during a special sale in Ely Center on September 13 and 14.

NOTES FROM PERSONNEL

September service awards

Ten years:

Sammie Austin, driver, Transportation; **Bernadette Banks**, program development specialist, Conference Training/Program Support; **Oluyinka Williams**, administrative secretary II, Clerc Center

Fifteen years:

Lynda Carter, technician, Development Office; **Leslie Page**, coordinator, Clerc Center; **Bonnie Sanderlin**, catalog technician, Library

Twenty years:

Lynne Blennerhasset, professor, Psychology; **Karen Cook**, academic/career advisor, Career Center; **Lynne Erting**, lead teacher, Clerc Center; **Joseph Hatfield**, mechanic I, Maintenance Services; **Ruth Innes**, administrative secretary I, Clerc Center; **John Janschek**,

mechanic I, Maintenance Services; **Ava Morrow**, assistant professor, Biology; **Jennifer Thomas**, ASL/deaf culture/multicultural specialist, Clerc Center; **Cassie Wilson**, personnel assistant II, Human Resources

Twenty-five years:

James Barrie, lead teacher, Clerc Center; **Michael Kaika**, director, Public Relations; **Agnes Muse**, benefits specialist, Human Resources; **Wylie Myers**, shift supervisor, Safety and Security

Thirty years:

Fred Kendrick, executive director, Facilities; **Bette Martin**, special assistant, President's Office; **Doris Schwarz**, teacher, Clerc Center; **Helen Sweetney**, teacher, Clerc Center

September retirement:

Stephen Lotterman, Audiology



Kevin Cole, a research applications programmer in the Graduate School and Research, has passed the exam required to become a Red Hat Certified Engineer for the Linux software operating system. The six-hour exam, which has only a 60 percent passage rate among those who take it for the first time, includes giving the examinee an empty computer, then formatting the hard disk, rebuilding the operating system, and installing the system, plus any additional applications that the theoretical customer requests. The examinee must also analyze four malfunctioning computers and fix them. (The exam is not only difficult, it is expensive—it costs \$749 each time it is taken.) "I thought the exam, though occasionally grueling, was one of the better exams I've taken," said Cole.

President Jordan was the featured guest on the September 29 ABC News webcast program, hosted by Sam Donaldson. The show can be seen in the network's archives at <http://www.abc-news.com>

Dr. Susan Mather, an associate professor in the Department of ASL, Linguistics, and Interpretation, hosted an English Works! mini-workshop on proof-reading October 2.

AMONG OURSELVES

Janet Weinstock, lead teacher for Grades 3, 4, and 5 at KDES, presented a workshop entitled "Sign! Read! Write!: Literacy IS Everyone's Business," on October 4. The workshop was part of the Sign Language Education Lecture Series.

Theatre Arts professor **Willy Conley's** new play, *The Fallout Shelter*, was performed at the Kennedy Center on October 2. The performance was part of the Kennedy Center's program of plays written by people with disabilities about the experience of living with a disability. Conley's play portrays two deaf couples and their encounter with a man who has a psychiatric condition and believes that a nuclear bomb has been dropped over Baltimore, Md.'s, Inner Harbor. (The play will be performed at Gallaudet next month.)

Jonathan and Charlie McKee, brothers of **John McKee**, assistant director of major giving in the Development Office, won the Bronze Medal in the 49er class of sailing at the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia, on September 25. McKee's brothers have won medals in previous Olympics sailing events. Jonathan won the Flying Dutchman Gold in 1984, and Charlie won the 470 Bronze in 1988.

Kevin Cole wears the Red Hat with pride.



WHAT'S HAPPENING... AND WHEN

October

18-Men's Soccer vs. Mary Washington, 4 p.m.; **Women's Soccer** at Goucher, 4 p.m.; **Volleyball** at St. Mary's, 7 p.m.

20-21-Volleyball at Juniata Tournament, 11 a.m.

21-Cross Country at Mason-Dixon Championships, 12 p.m.; **Football** vs. Valley Forge, 1 p.m.; **Men's Soccer** at York, 2 p.m.

23-Women's Soccer at CAC Semifinal, TBA

24-Volleyball at Marymount, 7 p.m.

25-Men's Soccer vs. St. Mary's, 2 p.m.

27-Men's Soccer at Marymount, 7 p.m.

28-Football vs. Newport News Apprentice, 1 p.m.

30-Men's Soccer in CAC Semifinal, TBA

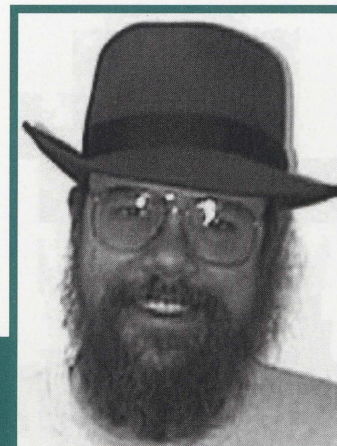
31-Volleyball in CAC Quarterfinal, TBA

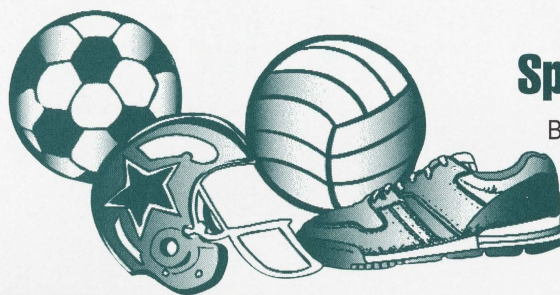


Register early, save money!

Online registration has begun. So has the call for proposals and presentations for Deaf Way II. The deadline to submit proposals is February 28, 2001.

Additionally, early (i.e., discounted) registration expires March 31, 2001. Visit www.deafway.org for more information. Deaf Way II will be held July 8-13, 2002.





Sports Roundup

By David Tossman

most games and is on pace to peak in time for the CAC Tournament.

Women's Soccer

Freshmen Katie Spiegel and Kelli Beechy have brought excitement to a team that is on pace for its first winning season in school history. Both players are on top of the conference scoring race, with the team's standing of 8-6 in its first 14 games. Spiegel was averaging 1.23 points per game, and Spiegel with 1.53. On October 4, the team shut out Hood College 7-0. The outstanding defense has been provided by goal keeper Amelia England, who has 211 saves in 12 games. She is allowing 3.15 goals per game.

Men's Soccer

The men's team surpassed last year's win total after winning its second game 4-1 against Lincoln on September 30. Senior goal keeper David Fraser has been outstanding, with 19 saves per game. The rapidly improving team has been competitive in

Football

It was as tough a loss as Gallaudet has had when the Bison were defeated by George Mason 14-8 in a September 28 game where Gallaudet was clearly the better team. The defense did an outstanding job of holding George Mason's feared passing attack to only four of 20, passing for 20 yards. Gallaudet ran 70 offensive plays to 60 for George Mason, marking the first time this year that the offense was on the field longer than the defense. Gallaudet's touchdown came on a 30-yard pass from freshman quarterback Chris Harris to sophomore wide receiver Reginald Green. Turnovers and bad field position throughout the game made the difference in the final score.

Volleyball

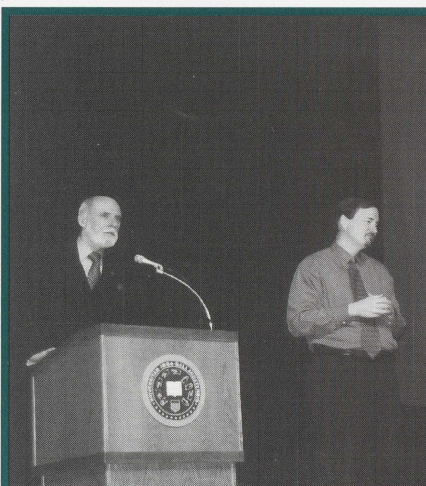
A second-place finish at the Washington Tournament raised the team's record to 12-5. Junior

Laurie Anderson was named to the All-Tournament team, the third straight time this year that she has achieved this distinction. The team will play tournaments every weekend through October before beginning its defense of the Capital Athletic Conference Championship. Last year's team won the tournament and advanced to the NCAA tournament.

Cross Country

The women's team keeps getting better and better. Sophomore Natalie Ludwig finished 17th out of 169 runners at the Frostburg Invitational on September 30. Ludwig ran the 5,000-meter course in 20:14. The top five Gallaudet women runners finished the race in under 23 minutes, continuing to improve under the guidance of 14-year head coach Jack Mika. The women were 11th overall out of 19 teams.

The men's team finished 16th out of 19 teams at the same meet. The team was led by sophomore Gilles Naniwe in 74th place at 29:36, and Sophomore Aaron Sowder who was 82nd at 29:50. **G**



Dr. Vinton Cerf, senior vice president for Internet Architecture and Technology, WorldCom, and a member of Gallaudet's Board of Trustees, discusses the unprecedented growth of the Internet, its future challenges, and potential uses in his September 25 keynote address for the Second Annual Conference on Videoconference Technology in Deaf Education. The two-day conference on Kendall Green focused on develop-

ment and growth trends in videoconference technology and videoconference projects being used in deaf education. Cerf said he actively seeks feedback from the deaf community on its needs in this growing field so that the required technology can be developed. "I have people around the world dying to make the Internet more accessible to everyone," he said. Cerf noted that Gallaudet is "a perfect place" to test new technologies in order to make them a universal means of communication. (Also pictured is interpreter Paul Harrelson.)

Telly Award featured at CAS reception



Ann Lynn Smith, '98, joined by College of Arts and Sciences Dean Jane Dillehay and Patrick Harris of TV and Media Production Services, displays the Telly Award at the September 12 College of Arts and Sciences Reception that she, Harris, and other team members earned collaborating on the videotaped version of *Plantation Songs*. Also serving on the team were Dr. Barbara Hardaway, Jim Dellon, and Dr. Pia and Ron Seagrave. CAS provided important funding for the project as well. *Plantation Songs*, written by Eli Shepperd—an alias for Martha Young—is a collection of folklore, spirituals, songs, poems, and celebrations of life among African Americans in the South after the Civil War. It was reprinted by Sgt. Kirkland's Press with an introduction by Hardaway. The video was submitted to the 21st Annual Telly Awards competition, and was one of 11,033 entries. It won a bronze award in its category. In the background is a clip from the video, which was shown at the CAS reception, with Smith signing a selection from the book.

Board of Trustees

continued from page 1
of Zoning Appeals, clearing the way for both projects to begin next year, said Jordan. The University also plans to renovate the Washburn Arts Building and to build new bleachers at Hotchkiss Field.

A welcome was extended to the board's newest members, Frank Wu, a professor of law at Howard University and Anthony Buzzelli, managing partner for the Central Atlantic Cluster of the consulting firm Deloitte & Touche. Dr. Vinton Cerf, Richard Dysart, Bill Graham, and Charles Williams were re-appointed to five-year terms on the board. **G**

CLERC CENTER HAPPENINGS

Students review sign language book



By Cathryn Carroll
KDES students in Grades 1 and 2 and their teacher, Barbara Kaufman, recently reviewed the new book by Jackie Kramer and Tai Ovadia, *You Can Learn Sign Language*, and earned complimentary copies for their own use from the publisher, Troll Communications, Inc.

The students' review is featured in the September/October issue of *World Around You* magazine, the Clerc Center's magazine for deaf and hard of hearing teens.

The students gave the book a

thumbs-up review, overall. "The signs are clear," said student De Jon McCutcheon. Tai Faust thought the children in the book looked friendly.

The students focused carefully on the presentation of the signs and on the sign choice. Mikey DeVito noted that the hand shape for the letter K "looked a little funny." Lark McNamara said that the sign for pizza was different from the one that she and her friends use.

But as a whole, the students said they enjoyed the book and that they would share it with their hearing friends. **G**



President and Mrs. Jordan welcomed new teachers and faculty members by hosting a tea at House One on September 26.



(From left): Young KDES book reviewers (second row) Mikey DeVito, Sameen Awan, Chris Kiskinis-Warmack, (front row) Tai Faust, De Jon McCutcheon, and Lark McNamara are pictured with their instructors: Maribel Garate, ESL teacher, Barbara Kaufman, team 1 and 2 teacher, Sara Martin, teacher intern, and Helena Ngalle, teacher's aide.